

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 5, 2006. Claims 1-13 and 15-40 are pending.

Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kim (US 6,774,967). This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following three reasons.

Claim 1 as amended requires that “the aperture section and the protrusion section are bent in such a manner that sides of the aperture section and sides of the protrusion section each extend in directions which respectively form about 45° with a long side and a short side of the display region, and wherein bent parts of the aperture section and bent parts of the protrusion section are discontinuous.” For example and without limitation, Fig. 2 of the instant application illustrates that the bent parts 23 of the protrusion section are discontinuous.

First, Kim fails to disclose or suggest at least the aforesaid underlined feature of amended claim 1. In Fig. 14 of Kim, the alleged protrusion section 53 is *continuous* (the opposite of discontinuous as called for in claim 1) thereby teaching away from the invention of claim 1. Thus, Section 103(a) rejection of claim 1 is fundamentally flawed for at least this reason and should be withdrawn.

Second, the Office Action’s alleged modification to Fig. 14 of Kim (i.e., the make the protrusion sections 53 extend across the LC layer to connect the opposing electrodes) to meet claim 1 would not have been done by one of ordinary skill in the art (i.e., this would not have been obvious). Kim states at col. 8, lines 20-27, that after the protrusion sections 53 are formed, liquid crystal is injected between the first and second substrates to complete the display.

However, if protrusion sections 53 in Fig. 14 of Kim extended all the way across the gap to connect the electrodes, the injected LC material would not be able to reasonably reach all parts of the LCD because its flowing movement would be stopped by the *continuous* protrusion sections. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have modified the Fig. 14 embodiment of Kim as alleged in the Office Action.

Claim 24

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kim. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 24 requires that the *bent parts of the protrusion section are discontinuous*. For example and without limitation, Fig. 2 of the instant application illustrates that the bent parts 23 of the protrusion section are discontinuous.

Kim fails to disclose or suggest this. The Office Action relies on Fig. 14 of Kim for this alleged teaching. However, in Fig. 14 of Kim, the alleged protrusion section 53 is *continuous* (the opposite of discontinuous as called for in claim 24) thereby teaching away from the invention of claim 24. Thus, Section 103(a) rejection of claim 24 is fundamentally flawed for at least this reason and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

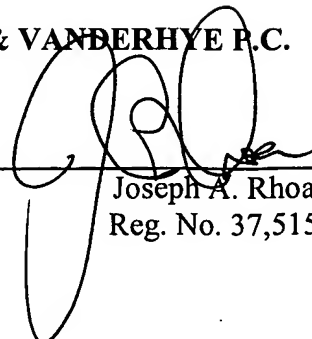
It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

MIYACHI
Appl. No. 10/849,378

Respectfully submitted,

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